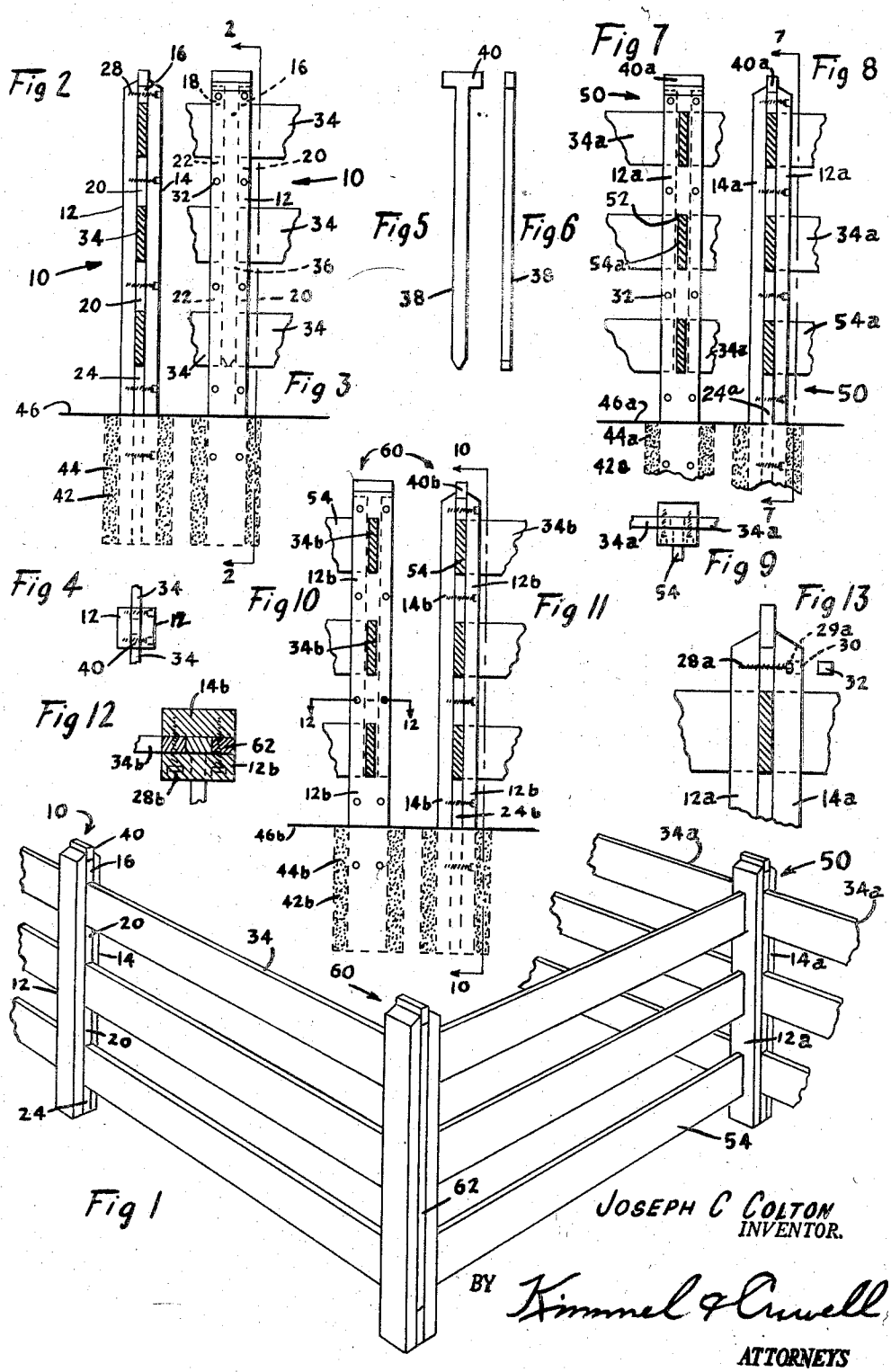
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FENCE POST CONSTRUCTION

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FENCE POST CONSTRUCTION

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This invention relates to fence posts, and more specifically, the invention pertains to fence posts for board fences.

One of the primary objects of this invention is to provide a fence and fence posts therefor which when erected will present the same appearance when viewed from its opposite sides.

A further object of this invention is to provide a board fence and posts therefor which may be quickly assembled and disassembled.

Another object of this invention is to provide a fence post which is inexpensive to manufacture, non-complex to assemble, and durable in use.

Other and further objects and advantages of this invention will become more apparent from a consideration of the following specification when read in conjunction with the annexed drawing, in which:

Figure 1 is a perspective view of a plurality of fence posts constructed in accordance with this invention.

Figure 2 is a cross sectional view taken on the vertical plane of line 2—2 of Figure 3, looking in the direction of the arrows.

Figure 3 is a side elevation of the fence post shown in Figure 2.

Figure 4 is a top plan view of the fence post illustrated in Figure 2.

Figure 5 is a front elevation of a lock shaft.

Figure 6 is a side elevation of the lock shaft shown in Figure 5.

Figure 7 is a side elevation, partly in cross-section, taken on the vertical plane of line 7—7 of Figure 8, looking in the direction of the arrows, and illustrating a second embodiment of this invention.

Figure 8 is an end elevation of the fence post shown in Figure 7.

Figure 9 is a top plan view of the fence post shown in Figure 7.

Figure 10 is a side elevation, partly in cross-section, of a further embodiment of this invention, and taken on the vertical plane of line 10—10 of Figure 11.

Figure 11 is an end elevation, partly in section, of the post illustrated in Figure 10.

Figure 12 is a cross sectional view taken on the horizontal plane of line 12—12 of Figure 10, looking in the direction of the arrows.

Figure 13 is an enlarged fragmentary detail end elevation of the fence post illustrated in Figure 7, illustrating the manner in which all of the fence posts disclosed herein are secured together.

Referring now more specifically to Figures 1, 2, 3 and 4 of the drawing, reference numeral **10** designates, in general, a fence post constructed in accordance with the teachings of this invention. As illustrated therein, the fence post **10** comprises a pair of spaced, parallel and vertically extending substantially rectangular members **12, 14** preferably formed of wood, though other suitable materials may be employed if desired. The members **12**

and **14** have interposed therebetween a pair of spaced substantially parallel spacer blocks **16, 18** adjacent the upper ends thereof, and a plurality of elongated substantially rectangular spacer blocks **20, 22** adjacent each marginal edge thereof. As shown in the drawing the spacer blocks **20, 22** are horizontally and vertically aligned. An enlarged substantially rectangular spacer block **24** is interposed between the members **12, 14** at the lower ends thereof, the upper end of the spacer block **24** being spaced downwardly from the lower ends of the adjacent pair of spacer blocks **20, 22.**

The members **12, 14,** the spacer blocks **20, 22** and **24** are secured together by lag screws **28** in the manner shown in Figure 13. As shown therein, the post member **14*a*** is first bored inwardly from the outer side thereof to provide a plurality of recesses **30** for the heads **29** of the lag screws **28*a***. Thereafter, the recesses **30** are filled by wooden dowels **32** to conceal the heads **29** from view.

Referring back to Figures 1 to 4, inclusive, the fence post members **12, 14** are adapted to receive therebetween the ends of a plurality of wooden boards **34** which rest on and are supported by the upper ends of the spacer blocks **20, 22,** and **24.** The boards **34** are inserted from opposite sides of the post **10** and the adjacent ends thereof are spaced from each other to form, in conjunction with the space between each pair of horizontally aligned spacer blocks **20, 22,** a continuous passage **36** adapted to slidably receive an elongated substantially rectangular lock shaft **38** having a flat substantially rectangular handle **40** at its upper end. As illustrated in the drawing, the handle has a lower portion thereof which is disposed between the members **12, 14** and rests on the upper ends of the spacer blocks **16, 18.**

In erecting a board fence in accordance with this invention and employing a number of fence posts **10,** it is necessary that the width of the lock shaft **38** be slightly greater than the length of the end portions of the boards **34** whereby upon removal of one of the lock shafts **38** the fence boards **34** in that respective fence post **10** will permit the boards to move into the space vacated thereby, whereby the other ends of the boards are withdrawn from the adjacent post **10,** and movement in the other direction will effect a withdrawal of the boards from the first post.

As shown in Figures 2 and 3, the lower end of the post **10** may be encased in a suitable base **42** of cement set in a post hole **44** formed in the ground **46.**

A lot dividing fence post is generally indicated by the reference numeral **50** in Figures 1, 7, 8, and 9, and comprises a second embodiment of this invention. The divider post **50** is similar to the post **10** and consequently elements of divider post **50** which find counter parts in the post **10** are distinguished therefrom by the addition of the reference letter *a.*

The divider post **50** comprises a pair of spaced, parallel and vertically extending substantially rectangular members **12*a*, 14*a*.** The members **12*a*** and **14*a*** have disposed therebetween a pair of spaced substantially parallel spacer blocks **16*a*, 18*a*** which are positioned adjacent their respective upper ends, and a plurality of elongated substantially spacer blocks **20*a*, 22*a*** adjacent each marginal edge thereof. As in the original embodiment of this invention, the spacer blocks **20*a*, 22*a*** are horizontally and vertically aligned.

An enlarged, substantially rectangular spacer block **24*a*** is positioned intermediate the members **12*a*, 14*a*** adjacent the lower ends thereof and completely occupies the space therebetween. The upper end of the spacer block **24*a*** is spaced downwardly from the lower ends of the adjacent pair of spacer blocks **20*a*, 22*a*.**

The members **12*a*, 14*a*,** the spacer blocks **20*a*, 22*a***

and **24***a* are secured by lag screws **28***a* in the manner shown in Figure 13. The member **14***a* is provided with a plurality of recesses **30** which are adapted to receive the heads **29***a* of the lag screws **28***a*. Thereafter the recesses **30** are filled by wooden dowels **32** to conceal the heads **29***a* from view.

The post member **12***a* is provided with a plurality of elongated substantially rectangular mortice **52** which are adapted to receive one end of a third set of fence boards **54**.

As in the previous embodiment, the post members **12***a*, **14***a* are adapted to receive therebetween the ends of a plurality of wooden boards **34***a* which rest on and are supported by the upper ends of the spacer blocks **20***a*, **22***a* and **24***a*.

Referring now more specifically to Figures 1, 10, 11 and 12, the fence post **60** illustrated therein comprises a corner post for a board fence. The corner post **60** is very similar to the preceding embodiment of this invention and reference numerals which are common to each may be differentiated in the latter embodiment by the addition of the reference letter *b*.

The essential distinction between the divider post **50** and the corner post **60** resides in the elimination of the spacer blocks along one side of the post **60** and the substitution therefor of an elongated substantially rectangular filler rod **62**.

In all cases, the surfaces of all of the spacer blocks and the exposed surface of the filler rod extend flush with the adjacent sides of their respective posts whereby the posts **10**, **50** and **60**, when finished, as by painting, present a substantially solid unitary appearance.

Having described and illustrated a plurality of embodiments of this invention in detail, it will be understood that they are offered merely by way of example, and that the invention is to be limited only by the scope of the appended claims.

What is claimed is:

1. In a rail fence of the type having vertically spaced horizontal rail boards, a fence post comprising a pair of upright parallel spaced apart members, a plurality of vertically separated spacer blocks positioned between said members along one vertical edge thereof, a second plurlity of vertically separated spacer blocks positioned between said members along the other vertical edge thereof, said first plurality of spacer blocks and said second plurality of spacer blocks being arranged in horizontally spaced relation with the adjacent spacer blocks in each of said pluralities being horizontally aligned, said horizontal spacing between said members and the vertical spacing between said spacer blocks providing openings to receive the ends of said rail boards, means securing said members and said spacer blocks together, and a lock shaft engaged between said members and between said first and second plurality of spacer blocks for locking said rail boards between adjacent posts.

2. A device as claimed in claim 1 wherein said lock shaft is provided with a T handle secured to the upper end thereof.

3. A device as claimed in claim 1 wherein at least one of said members is provided with a plurality of vertically spaced aligned mortises extending therethrough to receive the ends of said rail boards.

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